

Ref. 12588ROUS01U

Abstract

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for transmitting an electrical digital signal of arbitrary transmission rate over a data network characterized by a range of allowable transmission rates, where the data network may be synchronous or asynchronous, optical or electrical. A synchronizer is provided for mapping an incoming electrical digital signal into a frame for transmission over the optical network. The line transmission rate of the frame is recovered from the data clock signal of the incoming digital signal, independent of the format and bit-rate of the data network. A desynchronizer is also provided for reverse mapping a data signal, received over the data network, into an electrical digital signal of arbitrary transmission rate.